



Northern Lights & Icelandic Wilderness

October 2021

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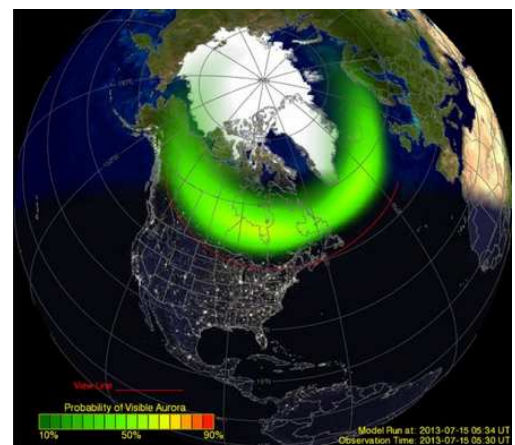
What are Northern Lights

Northern Lights, or *Aurora Borealis* in the Northern Hemisphere is a vivid & shifting display of colours seen on clear dark nights from select places close to the arctic circle. The most distinctive and brightest are the curtain-like auroral arcs. While auroras show various colours, green is the most commonly observed colour at lower altitudes.



Best time to view Northern Lights – Northern Lights are typically seen on dark, moonless nights from late September to mid March. You need to be away from the city lights, and the sky needs to be free of any clouds. Since cloud cover is dynamic, it is difficult to predict the exact time and location where the lights will be best seen – we monitor weather websites frequently and drive accordingly.

Best places to view Northern Lights – Northern lights can be seen only from certain areas of the Northern Hemisphere, which fall under the so called *Auroral Belt* – roughly between 66° to 69° North latitudes – which includes Iceland and other places like Alaska, Siberia, Northern Norway, Greenland and parts of Northern Canada.



What causes Northern Lights – Our Sun continuously emits high energy charged particles (called *solar prominences* or *solar winds*) which travel toward the Earth and are deflected by Earth's Magnetic Field. However, close to the north & south pole, the magnetic field is weak, resulting in these particles entering the Earth's atmosphere where they collide with gases like oxygen & nitrogen. These collisions are what give rise to the colourful displays – each colour being characteristic of a gas. The Earth's magnetic field changes continuously and so do these auroras, giving the impression of an *auroral dance*.

Iceland Beyond the Northern Lights

A mythical kingdom ruled by elves and fire spewing volcanoes, Iceland is one place where immense sky with countless stars gives a new meaning to the infinite. A place where the warmth of people contrasts cold arctic glaciers. Here long endless roads lead to tiny villages dotted along majestic mountains and sheep outnumber people. Iceland's surreal landscapes linger in your memory for time to come. We spend seven days exploring this unique nation and its hidden corners.



The Golden Circle is the most popular route in Iceland, as it gives us a preview of all Icelandic landscapes in a single day. The trip begins at **Pingvellir National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where *Althing*, the World's first true parliament was established in 930 AD. You can also see the great **Continental Divide** clearly from here. Next stop is at a unique **Geothermal Bakery** where we witness bread

being baked in the ground using the heat from thermal hot-springs. **Gulfoss Waterfalls** are without a doubt Iceland's most pretty and popular waterfalls. Next stop **Strokkur geyser** – one of the most reliable & consistent geysers in the world that spews hot water as high as 20 m, every 4-6 minutes. Finally we stop at the **Kerið Volcanic Crater Lake** located in the Grímsnes area in south Iceland. It is one of several crater lakes in the area known as Iceland's Western Volcanic Zone, and the one that has the most visually recognizable caldera still intact.



Exploring Icelandic Wilderness

One of the most spectacular sights in Iceland, the **Jökulsárlón** lagoon with its luminous-blue icebergs floating on a crystal clear glacial lake makes for a surreal landscape

A land of magnificent waterfalls, black sand beaches, roaring waves breaking against majestic cliffs – Iceland is truly a photographers delight

Experience the stunning **Snaefellsnes Peninsula**. Ride an **All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Quad Bike** through rivers and on beaches to reach an isolated airplane wreck site. Explore the inner workings of a 5000-year old volcanic eruption as you take a **Lava Tunnel Tour** or taste the most delicious bread being baked in a **Geothermal Bakery!** Walk on ice, literally, on the **Glacier walk** tour, or an optional **ride on a snowmobile** up to an ice-cave – the possibilities are endless

Taking a dip in the **Blue Lagoon** is one of the most unique experiences in Iceland. Set in a pristine Icelandic landscape surrounded by lava fields, naturally warm rejuvenating geothermal seawater with healing properties soothes & refreshes your senses.

Spend a day in **Reykjavik** and you will discover the northern-most capital of the world to be a vibrant city with a truly European spirit – cute cafés, world class restaurants, museums and galleries, stylish pubs and a buzzing music scene, all set against the backdrop of snow capped volcanic mountains – need we ask for more?



Itinerary & Activities

Day	Itinerary	Overnight
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Arrive into Keflavik International Airport 🌍 Spend the evening relaxing in Reykjavik or Selfoss¹ 	Reykjavik/Selfoss
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Explore the stunning Snafellsnes peninsula² – a less visited region of Iceland, often dubbed <i>Iceland in Miniature</i> <p><i>Activity – Lava Tunnel Tour – your first steps on a journey toward the center of the Earth!</i></p>	Selfoss
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Classic Golden Circle Route including Gullfoss Waterfall, Geysir, Thingvellir National Park & Kerið Crater <p><i>Activity - Geothermal Bakery Tour – watch a cake being baked using geothermal hot springs (and taste it of course!!)</i></p>	Selfoss
Day 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Drive from Selfoss to the South 🌍 Seljalandsfoss Waterfall 🌍 Skógafoss 🌍 Vik Black sand beach & basalt caves <p><i>Activity – LAVA Centre Tour (Interactive exhibits & movie)</i></p>	South Iceland
Day 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Jökulsárlón Glacier lagoon 🌍 Skaftafell National park <p><i>Activity – Glacier walk – see how it feels to walk on ice – explore the world of ice caves & crevasses</i></p>	South Iceland
Day 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Dyrhólaey Cliffs & Lighthouse <p><i>Activity – ATV (All Terrain Vehicle) tour to aircraft crash site</i></p>	Reykjavik
Day 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Reykjavik City attractions – Old Town, Harbour, HARPA, Laugavegur Street & Sun Voyager sculpture 🌍 Reykjanes Peninsula - Krýsuvík Geothermal area and Bridge Across Continents <p><i>Activity – Blue Lagoon Experience – take a dip in the iconic Icelandic hot spring</i></p>	Reykjavik
Day 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Flight out of Reykjavik 	

¹ Overnight stay in Reykjavik or Selfoss will be decided closer to the departure of the trip after evaluating weather patters in the season, snow cover on the ground & accessibility of roads

² Excursion to Snafellsnes is highly weather dependent and may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather.

Trip Details & Logistics

Trip Dates	Sat 2 nd Oct – Sat 9 th Oct 2021 Sat 9 th Oct – Sat 16 th Oct 2021
Trip Routing	Best flights from most Indian cities to Iceland are on Air France/KLM/ via Paris/Amsterdam or on Lufthansa via Munich/Frankfurt.
Visa	Iceland requires Schengen Visa. Processing takes about 15 days.
Weather	Expect temperatures in the range of 4-9 ^o C during the day, and 1-2 ^o C during the nights. Snowfall/Snowstorms are likely. We will guide you on what clothes to bring during the trip.
Group Size	This is a small group tour, with maximum 6 guests per vehicle. The trip does not involve strenuous activities. Minimum age to join is 10 years
Trip Price	<p>₹ 1,49,700^{1,2} + 5% GST per person (on double occupancy)</p> <p>Price includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Airport transfers & all transportation within Iceland 🌍 7 nights in hotels/guesthouses (₹ 24,600 + 5% GST single room surcharge) 🌍 Breakfast on all days 🌍 Excursions: Snaefellsnes peninsula, Classic Golden Circle, Seljalandsfoss & Skógafoss waterfalls, Reynisfjara black sand beach, Dyrhólaey lighthouse & cliffs, Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, Krýsuvík Geothermal area, Bridge across continents, Reykjavik City 🌍 Activities included: Lava Tunnel Tour, Geothermal Bakery Tour, Interactive LAVA Centre, Glacier Walk, ATV Tour to airplane crash site, Blue Lagoon 🌍 Schengen Visa assistance³. <i>Visa fees are payable in cash directly at VFS</i> 🌍 Guide / Driver Services <p>¹Price does not include international airfare, visa fees, meals, personal expenses, tips & gratuities or any expenses incurred outside of the announced trip itinerary, dates & times</p> <p>²Any fluctuation of more than Re. 1/€ may require repricing of the itinerary</p> <p>³Travel Insurance (mandatory for Schengen Visa) issued at cost & varies according to age & trip length</p>
Optional Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Into-the-Glacier Monster Truck & Ice cave (from ₹ 13,000 per person) • Snowmobiling (from ₹ 15,500 per person on double sharing) • Jökulsárlón Zodiac Ride (₹ 6,500 per person) • Horse-riding in Lava Fields (from ₹ 4,900 per person) <p><i>Note – Some activities may require you to stay back an extra day. Some activities are not available on all tour dates. Some activities have age & height restrictions</i></p>
Cancellation charges	<p><i>Trip cancellation charges are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 10% of the trip amount if cancelled 60 days or more before departure 🌍 20% of the trip amount if cancelled within 60-30 days before departure 🌍 50% of the trip amount if cancelled within 30-7 days before departure 🌍 No refund if cancelled within 7 days from departure <p><i>Flight cancellation charges are as per airline policies. Administrative fees may apply.</i></p>

Iceland Through Our Lens

